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Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 15th and 16th meetings, on 17 and 24 November 2009. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/64/SR.15 and A/C.5/64/SR.16).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/64/463);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the revised budget for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 (A/64/464);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/64/529).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.5

4. At its 16th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" (A/C.5/64/L.5), submitted by the Chairperson on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Finland.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.5 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 854 (1993) of 6 August 1993, by which the Council approved the deployment of an advance team of up to ten United Nations military observers for a period of three months and the incorporation of the advance team into a United Nations observer mission if such a mission was formally established by the Council,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the last of which was resolution 1866 (2009) of 13 February 2009,

Recalling further its decision 48/475 A of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 63/293 of 30 June 2009,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to complete its administrative liquidation,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia as at 30 September 2009, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 8.9 million United States dollars, representing some 2 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-seven Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full;

[1] A/64/463 and A/64/464.

[2] A/64/529.

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all action necessary to ensure that the administrative liquidation of the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;[3]

6. *Decides* to reduce the appropriation of 36,084,000 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 under the terms of its resolution 62/260 by the amount of 501,985 dollars, to 35,582,015 dollars;

7. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 934,857 dollars, representing the difference between the amount of 33,047,358 dollars already apportioned by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission and the actual expenditure of 33,982,215 dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;

8. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 200,345 dollars, representing the difference between the amount of 2,313,129 dollars already assessed for the maintenance of the Mission and the actual expenditure of 2,513,474 dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;

9. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the total amount of 66,658 dollars, comprising 58,108 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 8,550 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, remaining to be apportioned by the General Assembly for the period from 16 to 30 June 2009, taking into account the amount of 1,599,800 dollars already appropriated for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 under the terms of General Assembly resolution 62/260, comprising of 1,394,600 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 205,200 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy;

10. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 6,258 dollars, comprising the prorated share of 5,583 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 675 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

[3] A/64/463.

Revised budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

11. *Further decides* to reduce the appropriation of 15 million dollars approved by the General Assembly under the terms of its resolution 63/293 for the administrative liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2009 to the amount of 10,946,000 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2009;

Financing of the appropriation

12. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 946,000 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2009, taking into account the amount of 10 million dollars already apportioned by the General Assembly on Member States under the terms of resolution 63/293, and in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009, as set out in Assembly resolution 61/237;

13. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 933,500 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Observer Mission;

14. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share of other income in the amount of 821,900 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009, in accordance with the levels updated in resolution 61/243, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009, as set out in resolution 61/237;

15. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of other income in the total amount of 821,900 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 12 above;

16. *Also decides* to keep under review during its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia".